Call for Applications

Visiting Scholars Program

The NSF-Simons Center for Quantitative Biology at Northwestern University (CQuB) is a place where mathematical scientists and developmental biologists intensely work together on a broad range of questions arising from investigations into the biology of animal development. This activity is further enabled by the hosting of extended visits by investigators from the U.S. and around the world. The Visiting Scholars Program, which attracts select participants from institutions worldwide, is designed to enhance interaction and collaboration among participants in order to stimulate creative thinking and interdisciplinary science. The Center has capacity for up to six visitors at a time. For more info please see http://www.quantitativebiology.northwestern.edu/

Description of Appointment

Participants are appointed for extended periods of time (from two weeks to six months) to visit and work at Northwestern University in Evanston, Illinois. Visiting scholars occupy a shared office embedded near our Center's laboratories and groups, and they typically share the office with a participant from a complementary discipline – e.g. a mathematician and biologist might share an office. In addition, participants can work within the Center's experimental labs, either developing and learning new methods or conducting research.

Visiting scholars participate in the vibrant intellectual life of the Center, including seminars, workshops, research meetings, and journal clubs. Participants are encouraged to communicate their expertise and knowledge with Center members in these forums.

Participants can use their time for a variety of purposes: 1) initiation and growth of cross-disciplinary collaborations, 2) problem-solving particular issues central to their research, 3) immersion in fields that are unfamiliar but of interest, 4) other professional development activities.

Participants receive a university identification and email account, access to library facilities, including online journals, and elective health insurance coverage. Mail, copying, scanning facilities are located nearby.

Financial support for housing is provided on an as-need basis. The Center has a contract with an extended stay hotel, The Homestead, which is located within a five-minute walk from campus. The hotel is also located five minutes from grocery stores, restaurants, and the Evanston downtown commercial district. It is a ten minute walk to the Chicago subway and Greater Chicago Rail System (Metra). Need for car or regular public transportation is not essential. The Homestead contains studio, one- and two-bedroom apartments equipped with kitchens and dining areas.
Eligibility

Faculty, postdoctoral fellows, and PhD students from educational institutions in the U.S and other countries are eligible to participate. Ongoing research activity in either developmental biology or applied mathematics/physics is a criterion. Although all such academic researchers are eligible, priority is given to applicants who are from teaching intensive colleges, minority serving institutions, and from non-PhD granting institutions.

Application

Applications are accepted on a rolling basis.

To submit your application, send it as an email attachment to the Center Administrator, Tiffany Leighton Ozmina at tiffany.ozmina@northwestern.edu. Please write in the Subject line: Visiting Scholar Application

Materials required for submission:

- Curriculum Vitae (5 page limit)
- Letter of Intent (instructions below)
- Letter of Institutional Support from your department chair or principal investigator

All materials must be submitted as one file in PDF format with your last_first name as the filename. Formatting of all documents should be in 11-point font, single-spaced, with 0.5-inch margins.

Please note, that once accepted, the preparation time for processing may take up to six months for international visitors and up to two months for domestic visitors. Consider this timing when submitting your application.

Letter of Intent

Provide a justification for a visiting scholar appointment by answering the following questions. Limit of 2 pages. Embedded figures are acceptable.

- What are your research interests at the interface of mathematics and developmental biology?
- What length(s) of time would you like to stay?
- What is it you would like to achieve while at the Center?
- What expertise and knowledge do you provide to enrich the Center?
- Do you request financial assistance for housing, and if so, why?

For further questions about the Visiting Scholars Program, please contact Tiffany Leighton Ozmina at tiffany.ozmina@northwestern.edu.